

## **MRF Media contact Penrith, Cumbria**

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### **Jude Tarn**

Jude lost her five day old daughter Lia-Rose to GBS meningitis in 2005.

Jude gave birth to Lia-Rose and two days later was allowed home. Lia-Rose stopped feeding and became unwell very quickly. Jude called a midwife who said that her behaviour wasn't unusual for a newborn and that she shouldn't worry about it. Lia-Rose became more ill very quickly and Jude and her partner made the decision to rush her into hospital where she was placed in intensive care, but tragically died at just five days old.

Jude was completely unaware of the possibility that she was a GBS carrier, and was given no information about GBS at any stage in her pregnancy.

Jude says: "I was completely unaware of the issues surrounding GBS and the test available for pregnant women to ascertain whether they're carrying GBS bacteria. I'd also urge everyone to know the symptoms of meningitis, as early diagnosis is so important in successfully treating these diseases. That's why I'm supporting MRF's awareness week. Call their helpline or go to their website for free symptoms information. It only takes a minute but it could save a life."

Jude Tarn – contact through MRF: 01454 281811